

I claim:

1. A sliding gate valve, said valve comprised of:
  - a valve body having an inlet and an outlet;
  - a cavity extending longitudinally through at least a portion of said valve body, wherein said cavity is in fluid communication with said inlet and said outlet;
  - a gate slidably moveable within said cavity, said gate having a blocking portion and a conduit portion;
  - a first sealing gasket in contact with a first surface of said cavity and a first surface of said gate,
  - wherein a first portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said conduit portion;
  - wherein a second portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said blocking portion; and
  - wherein a flow of a fluid between said inlet and said outlet is generally transverse to said longitudinal extension of said cavity; and
  - wherein a passage for said flow of a fluid through said valve is provided when said conduit portion of said gate is aligned with said inlet and said outlet.
2. The valve of claim 1, said valve additionally comprising a groove on said first surface of said gate, wherein said groove is adapted to receive at least a portion of said first sealing gasket.

3. The valve of claim 1, said valve additionally comprising a groove on said first surface of said cavity, wherein said groove is adapted to receive at least a portion of said first sealing gasket.
4. The valve of claim 1, wherein said first sealing gasket has a round cross-section.
5. The valve of claim 1, wherein said first sealing gasket is comprised of:
  - a circular portion; and
  - at least one straight portion connected to said circular portion.
6. The valve of claim 5, wherein said circular portion extends around said perimeter of said conduit portion of said gate.
7. The valve of claim 5, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a curved portion connected to said at least one straight portion.
8. The valve of claim 5, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a substantially semicircular portion connected to said at least one straight portion.
9. The valve of claim 5, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of:
  - at least one additional straight portion connected to said circular portion; and
  - a substantially semicircular portion having a first end and a second end,

wherein said at least one straight portion is tangential to said circular portion at said connection to said circular portion;

wherein said at least one additional straight portion is tangential to said circular portion at said connection to said circular portion;

wherein said at least one straight portion is parallel to said at least one additional straight portion; and

wherein said first end of said substantially semicircular portion is connected to an end of said at least one straight portion; and

wherein said second end of said substantially semicircular portion is connected to an end of said at least one additional straight portion.

10. The valve of claim 1, additionally comprising a second sealing gasket in contact with a second surface of said cavity and a second surface of said gate.
11. The valve of claim 10, wherein said first surface of said cavity is on a side opposite said second surface of said cavity.
12. The valve of claim 10, wherein said first surface of said gate is on a side opposite said second surface of said gate.
13. The valve of claim 10, said valve additionally comprising a groove on said second surface of said gate, wherein said groove is adapted to receive at least a portion of said second sealing gasket.
14. The valve of claim 10, said valve additionally comprising a groove on said second surface of said cavity, wherein said groove is adapted to receive at least a portion of said second sealing gasket.

15. The valve of claim 1, said valve additionally comprising:
- a first post connected to a first end of said gate; and
  - a second post connected to a second end of said gate,
- wherein said first end of said gate is on an end opposite said second end of said gate; and
- wherein movement of said first post or said second post operatively moves said slidably movable gate within said cavity.
16. The valve of claim 15, wherein said first post is smaller than said second post.
17. The valve of claim 15, wherein said first post has a different cross-sectional shape than said second post.
18. The valve of claim 15, wherein said valve body is additionally comprised of a first opening and a second opening,
- wherein said first opening provides a complementary fit for said first post; and
  - wherein said second opening provides a complementary fit for said second post.
19. The valve of claim 18, wherein said first opening of said valve body is smaller than said second opening in said valve body such that said second post of said gate will not have a complementary fit with said second opening.

20. A sliding gate valve, said valve comprised of:
- a valve body having an inlet and an outlet;
  - a cavity extending longitudinally through at least a portion of said valve body, wherein said cavity is in fluid communication with said inlet and said outlet;
  - a gate slidably moveable within said cavity, said gate having a blocking portion and a conduit portion;
  - a first sealing gasket in contact with a first surface of said cavity and a first surface of said gate;
  - a second sealing gasket in contact with a first surface of said cavity and a first surface of said gate,
  - wherein said first sealing gasket and said second sealing gasket provide a seal between said first surface of said cavity and said first surface of said gate;
  - wherein said first sealing gasket and said second sealing gasket are concentrically arranged;
  - wherein said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said conduit portion;
  - wherein said second sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said conduit portion and said blocking portion;
  - wherein a flow of a fluid between said inlet and said outlet is generally transverse to said longitudinal extension of said cavity; and

wherein a passage for said flow of a fluid through said valve is provided when said conduit portion of said gate is aligned with said inlet and said outlet.

21. A gasket for a valve, said gasket comprised of
- a circular portion;
  - a first connector portion having a first end and a second end, said first end connected to said circular portion;
  - a second connector portion having a first end and a second end, said first end connected to said circular portion; and
  - a substantially circular portion having a first end and a second end, said first end connected to said second end of said first connector portion and said second end connected to said second end of said second connector portion.